

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

VAN LAMMEREN ET AL

PHN 16,019A

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Ex.

METHOD FOR INSPECTING AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Sir:

In examining the continuing application filed herewith,
please consider the following preliminary remarks.

REMARKS

The cited and other known prior art are silent about (I_{DDQ}
type) measuring techniques using **signal** rather than **supply** lines as
current source. The ability to perform this in a non-invasive way
without additional components in the signal line is an important,
nonobvious feature and useful alternative to the independent source
line techniques.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner find
the present application to be in condition for allowance. If any
points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may best be resolved

through a personal or telephonic interview, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric M. Bram, Reg. 37,285
Attorney for Applicant(s)

U.S. Philips Corp.
580 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591
(914) 333-9635